

Hagspiel, Bruno, Rev.

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SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD

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DIOCESE OF PARANA
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DIOCESE OF ANCUD

BRAZIL

(HOME MISSIONS AND INSTITUTIONS)

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DIOCESE OF CURITYBA, PARANA
DIOCESE OF RIBEIRAO PRETO, S. PAULO
DIOCESE OF GOYAS, GOYAS

October 24, 1924.

The American Numismatic Society

155th Street and Broadway

New York City.

Gentlemen:

I have been referred to you by Director
D.C. Davies of the Field Museum of Natural History.

Some two years ago, when I was privileged to be sent to the Far East for an eighteen months' tour of our missions in the Orient, I spent over six months in China. Upon my return I was commissioned to bring with me a very valuable collection of ancient Chinese coins. The collection is the life work, so to speak, of one of our most able missionaries; it is well arranged, most of the coins being hung in marked divisions on large cardboard charts, each division bearing a text showing age of coin referred to, its probable value when in use, and its estimated age. Many of the coins are said to be two and three thousand years old. We have been informed by some of those said to be competent to judge of such matters that the collection is worth anywhere from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

The collection was given over to me for the purpose of sale. The mission is sadly in need of funds, and is anxious to realize from this work. At first our own institution wished to retain the collection for our own museum, but we are not now in circumstances to warrant us in expending the amount which the missionaries should receive for them.

If your society would be interested in such a purchase, or could inform us of persons or organizations that would be likely to be interested, we should be very glad of a word from you.

Very sincerely yours,

(Rev.) Bruno Haggsell
P. H. D.

November 1st, 1924

Rev. Bruno Hagspiel
Tehny, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of October 24th, although we have very probably the finest collection of Chinese coins in the world, it is extremely doubtful if we should be interested in the collection about which you have written us, especially as our experience has shown us that it is only the most extraordinary collection that is worth anywhere near the price you state.

We are naturally interested in such coins, and would like to see them but I can give you no slight a guarantee of purchasing any of them, that I doubt if it would be worth your while to send the collection on to us.

At the present time, I know of no one who would be interested beyond a few hundred dollars in Chinese coins.

Very truly yours,

Curator